



Atty. Dkt. No. 017446-0305

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Atsushi MURASHIMA

Title:

SPEECH SIGNAL DECODING
METHOD AND APPARATUS

Appl. No.: 09/627,421

Filing Date: 07/27/2000

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 2741

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTOSB/08B is a listing of document(s) known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of the listed document(s) is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first action under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). In the alternative, the instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08B were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of an English language abstract of the listed documents, if available, is being provided. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider this document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

The Examiner in the corresponding Japanese patent application has commented as follows:

(About Claims 1, 2, 5-8, and 11-14)

Cited Literature 1-3, below, describe something that performs smoothing of the noise interval at the time of decoding.

In particular, Cited Literature 2 describes changing the process depending on the type of noise (Claim 2) and describes how the different types of the aforementioned noise have different frequency components, and thus it would be easy for an individual in the industry to determine the differences from the filter coefficient information (Claim 6).



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Attorney Docket No. 017446-0305

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Assistant Commissioner:

I hereby certify that the following paper(s) and/or fee along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.

1. Information Disclosure Statement
2. Form PTO SB/08
3. Claim for Convention Priority
4. Postcard

June 21, 2002
Date

Respectfully submitted,

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Additionally, that which is in Cited Literature 2 assumes a pitch interval characteristic and power (Claim 5)

(About Claims 3 and 9)

Obtaining a determination as to whether or not there is a sound, based on time-domain smoothing of the filter coefficients, is described in Cited Literature 4, below.

(About Claims 4 and 10)

Obtaining a determination as to whether or not there is sound based on the pitch interval characteristics and the power is described in Cited Literature 5, below.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H09-244695
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-083200
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-124097
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-222194
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-133997

It is believed that the instant information disclosure statement is being filed prior to the mailing date of any Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action. However, if this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action, then applicant(s) hereby request(s) and authorize(s) the PTO to charge the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08B be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date _____

By _____

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